

10/519276

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S/N Unknown

PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	HAGG, et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	Unknown	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
Filed:	Herewith	Docket No.:	13027.56USWO
Title:	CONNECTING DEVICE FOR AN ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 408490734 US

Date of Deposit: December 27, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop PCT, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: 

Name: David Ortiz

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the International Search Report and a German Examination Report. At least some of the references were recently cited in the International Search Report mailed October 17, 2003 and in the German Examination Report mailed August 13, 2003.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

A copy of any foreign patent document or "Other Document" listed on the Form 1449 is enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of the U.S. Patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Applicant hereby brings attention to the Examiner that the references listed were cited in an International Search Report dated October 17, 2003. A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed. Since the International Search Report is in English, no English translation of the listed foreign references are required, pursuant to MPEP §609(A)3. An English abstract has also been included for the foreign language reference not cited in the International Search Report

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

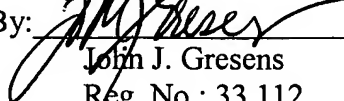
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612)332.5300

Dated: December 27, 2004

By: 
John J. Gresens
Reg. No.: 33,112

JJG/pjk

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FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 13027.56USWO	Application Number: 10/519276
	Applicant: HAGG, et al.	
	Filing Date: Herewith	Group Art Unit: Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	4,781,175	November, 1988	McGreevy, et al.				
	5,061,268	October, 1991	Fleenor				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	11 59 574	December, 1963	Germany				
	40 38 633	November, 1992	Germany				
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		van Vliet, et al., "The Effect of Argon Gas Flow During Electrosurgery", Proceedings of the 18th Annual International Conference of the IEEE, Engineering in Medicine and biology Society, 1996, Bridging Disciplines for Biomedicine, 31 October. - 3 November 1996, vol. 1, S. 216-217					

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	